Ex-RFK Aide Heads Violence Task Force

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William H. Orrick Jr., a former Assistant Attorney General, will head a task force investigating disorders during the Chicago and Miami conventions for the presidential commission on violence.

His appointment was announced yesterday by Federal Judge A. Leon Higginbotham, vice chairman of the National Commission of the Causes and Prevention of Violence.

The Commission, which had said it would look into the Chicago street battles between anti-war demonstrators and police, expanded the assignment to take in Miami and Cleveland as "important incidents of recent violence."

Heading up the Chicago investigation will be Daniel Walker, who is president of the Chicago Crime Commission, a private group. He also worked with the Chicago Riot Study Committee, set up after the April disorders in the wake of the assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Walker said yesterday he wanted to get "first-hand information" by talking to anyone on the scene of the street battles—delegates, bystanders, media workers, demonstration leaders, city officials.

His staff, he added, will examine film footage and stills and may be sent to interview student demonstrators at colleges or in their home towns.

Asked where he was in Chicago during the disorders, Walker replied: "I observed it on television."

Judge Higginbotham told reporters that the Commission has not been given an FBI report on the Chicago affair beyond testimony from FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover last week in closed session.

Orrick, 52, served as Assistant Attorney General in charge of the antitrust division from 1963 to 1965. He was a close associate of the late Robert F. Kennedy, who was Attorney General during most of the time Orrick was antitrust chief. He is a member of the San Francisco Crime Commission.

Louis J. Hector, a former member of the Civil Aeronautics Board, will guide the investigation in Miami, where three persons died in rioting in the Negro ghetto during the Republican National Convention.

The Cleveland staff will be appointed after a report expected to be issued soon by Louis Masotti, of Case Western Reserve University.